

VIOLENT STORM
HOLDS BRITISH
FORCES IN LEASH

Village and Height of Monchy-le-Preux, East of Arras, Captured.

BOTH HELD, DESPITE TWO GERMAN COUNTERATTACKS

Berlin Reports Repulse, With Heavy Casualties, of Attacks Near Fampaux and Roex.

GUN DUELS NEAR ST. QUENTIN

Several Engagements on Russian Front, but No Important Changes in Positions.

(By Associated Press.)

A violent snowstorm has served for the moment to hold in leash the British forces which since early Sunday morning had been hammering the Germans hard along the Arras-Lens front. Low-lying clouds and thickly falling snow greatly impeded the movement of the troops on Wednesday. In the early hours of the morning, the village and height of Monchy-le-Preux, east of Arras, fell into the hands of the British, and were held, despite two counterattacks delivered by the Germans, according to London. To the north of this position, Berlin reports the repulse with heavy casualties of British infantry and cavalry attacks near Fampaux and Roex.

State Treasurer
Dies at His Home



A. W. HARMAN, JR.

CHARLESTON, W. VA., SITE
FOR ARMOR-PLATE PLANT

Ideal Combination of Military Safety and Easy Access to Manufacturing Materials.

URGED BY SPECIAL NAVY BOARD

Secretary Daniels Says Construction Will Begin at Once and Be Hurried to Completion—Choice Made After Inspecting Many Cities.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—The government's armor-plate and projectile factories, for which Congress appropriated \$12,700,000, will be built at Charleston, W. Va., a location recommended by a special navy board as offering an ideal combination of military safety and easy access to manufacturing materials.

In announcing the selection to-night, Secretary Daniels said construction work would begin at once, and would be hurried to completion. He also made public the report of the board, which personally inspected facilities of twenty-nine cities chosen out of more than 100 which offered sites.

For the armor plant an appropriation of \$11,000,000 is available, but a greater sum may be asked of Congress before construction is finished. The initial appropriation for the projectile plant is \$1,700,000. Charleston offered several acceptable sites free of cost to the government, and one of these will be selected for the factories themselves, while one of the protected gorges nearby will be taken over as a proving field.

SECTION ABOUT PITTSBURGH

SINGLED OUT AT FIRST

The investigating board, headed by Rear-Admiral Fletcher, pointed out in its report that most of the sites suggested had to be rejected because of geographical location, offering inadequate security from invasion in war time. The report says that the section about Pittsburgh, including the upper Ohio Valley and West Virginia, soon was singled out as the most suitable, based on considerations of safety in time of war, cost of assembly of raw materials, availability of satisfactory labor, the advantages to be derived from location in a highly organized industrial center, the shipment of plates to the seaboard, and the total cost of the finished product.

"Of the various districts about Pittsburgh," the report says, "the West Virginia district from Cumberland, Md., to Ironton, Ohio, possesses more advantages than any of the others."

"Within this district, Charleston, W. Va., and Cumberland, Md., are the most favorably located in the order named," the report continues. "The first possesses the advantage of the low cost of assembled materials and favorable local conditions of the site, while the second possesses the advantage of being in closer proximity to the best labor and supply market in Pennsylvania and the distribution of the finished products of the plant."

RECOGNIZES CLAIMS

OF VARIOUS CITIES

"The board recognizes the value of the claims set forth in the briefs of various cities within the safety area, but, considering all conditions, it is believed that none are more favorably located within this area than those of Charleston, W. Va., and Cumberland, Md."

"The West Virginia district has the great advantage of nearness to some of the best coal-mining regions in the United States. Pig-iron markets are not far removed, oil and natural gas are available to a certain extent, although the low price of coal makes it possible for coal-fired power plants to compete with the hydraulic power. This district is closer to the great steel industrial labor markets of Pennsylvania, and the cost of assembly of raw materials is very low."

SUBMARINES IN PACIFIC

Warning of Presence of German Boats Sent to All Steamship Captains at Sea.

(By Associated Press.)

SAN FRANCISCO, April 11.—Warning that German submarines are believed to be operating in the Pacific were sent to all steamship captains at sea late today by wireless, by order of Lieutenant-Commander E. C. Woods, of the Twelfth Naval District here.

The warning said:

"Information has this day been received that German submarines are operating in the Pacific. Please notify all ships under your control, and ask that they spread the warning broadcast."

The location of the submarines was not made public.

STATE TREASURER
HARMAN IS DEAD

Passes Away at Home of Son-in-Law After Brief Illness.

GOVERNOR APPOINTS URNER

Chief Clerk in Office Is Named for Unexpired Term, Ending February 1.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Assurances that the \$7,000,000,000 war revenue measure will pass the House quickly, and that consideration of new taxation plans for raising part of the money will begin immediately, were given by President Wilson and Secretary McAdoo today by congressional leaders at the Capitol.

Introduction in the House of the revenue bill, authorizing a \$5,000,000 bond issue and \$2,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness, preceded an unexpected visit of the President to the Capitol by a few minutes. Democratic Leader Kitchin introduced the measure with a favorable report from the full committee, and announced that debate on it would begin on Friday morning at 11 o'clock. It is hoped to pass the bill before Saturday night.

Various Republican members of the committee will offer amendments which they have pledged themselves to vote for the measure, whatever may be the fate of their proposals. One by Representative Longworth of Ohio, to exempt estates from inheritance taxes under the measure, is expected to develop much debate. Other proposals expected to be offered include one by Representative Hill of Connecticut, to raise the interest rate on both the bond and certificate issues from 3 1/2 per cent, as the bill now proposed, to 4 per cent, and another by Representative Sloan of Nebraska, to limit the life of the bonds to thirty years. The bill would leave their tenure to the discretion of the Secretary of the Treasury.

LITTLE OPPOSITION

TO BIG BOND ISSUE

Little opposition is expected to the principal features of the \$5,000,000,000 bond issue.

In evolving a new taxation plan for raising revenue to meet the certificates of indebtedness, the administration leaders realize that they face a serious problem. Not only will much trouble be experienced in getting Republicans and Democrats together, but each side is possessed of many different ideas that will be difficult to reconcile.

THE FIRST BIG QUESTION

IS WHAT AMOUNT

of revenue shall be raised by immediate taxation. The generally accepted plan has been to divide equally the cost of the first year of the war, roughly estimated at from \$2,750,000,000 to \$4,000,000,000, between bonds and taxes, but the President has expressed himself as desirous of placing as much of the burden on the present generation as possible, and some members of Congress are advocating the raising of 75 per cent of the first-year needs by taxation.

Administration and congressional leaders generally are determined that the tax shall not be of a class character, regardless of the amount. History, they say, shall not designate this as either a poor or a rich man's war.

House financial authorities are considering proposals to raise new revenue on increased income and stamp taxes and taxes on excess profits, inheritances, distilled liquors and beers, cigars and tobaccos, amusements places, the postal service, soft drinks and newspaper, billboard and other advertising. A list of suggestions submitted to the last Congress by Secretary McAdoo for fermented liquor, candy, glucose, talking machines and their records, copper, pig iron and petroleum, distilled spirits and denatured alcohol also is again receiving close scrutiny.

PLACES OF AMUSEMENT

MAY ALSO BE TAXED

Liquors and beers probably will be taxed millions of dollars, and soda fountains and other soft drink dispensaries, including the "near beer" parlors, are virtually certain to be as taxed.

(Continued on Second Page.)

Can You Afford to Pay Freight on Water

Unless you are a millionaire you cannot. And yet you are doing it every day if you live in a city. A potato is about 80 per cent water, and your potatoes travel hundreds of miles before they reach your table. You pay the freight.

The same is true of all the fresh vegetables that you eat in the summer and all the canned vegetables that you eat in the winter.

Shipping an ocean across a continent is an expensive business, yet the American people are doing it every day.

That is one reason why the cost of living is high. And the way to reduce the cost of living is to produce your vegetables at home.

This garden book is free. You can get an official fifty-page booklet issued by the United States government that tells you in complete detail how to lay out and plant and take care of your home garden. It contains special directions for raising over fifty kinds of vegetables. It has diagrams, a planting table, description of tools, and thirty-four illustrations. You need this book to do your bit in the food reserve. Sent free on receipt of a 2-cent stamp for return postage. Address:

The Times-Dispatch, Information Bureau, Richmond, Va.

QUIT MAKING WHISKY

Pepper and Fifteen Other Distillers Will Close Plants Until After War.

LEXINGTON, KY., April 11.—James E. Pepper, head of the distilling company which bears his name announced from Chicago to-night that his plant here will make no whisky during the progress of the war. He declares that his action is due to the shortage of grain, and that it is the patriotic duty of every citizen to conserve the supply. Fifteen other Kentucky distillers will take the same action.

WAR REVENUE BILL
TO PASS QUICKLY

Assurances Given President Wilson by Congressional Leaders at Capitol.

CALLS FOR \$7,000,000,000

Serious Problem Admittedly Faced in Evolving New Taxation Plan.

(By Associated Press.)

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(Continued on Second Page.)

TO DISCUSS PLANS
FOR CO-OPERATION

Two More Latin-American Nations Assure U. S. of Moral Support

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Without formally announcing abandonment of their neutrality, two more Latin-American republics, Argentina and Costa Rica, have given assurances of their moral support for the United States in the war against Germany. Argentina, choosing a middle course between those of Brazil and Chile, her sister nations in the influential A. B. C. trio, has notified the State Department that she recognizes the justice of this country's stand against German aggression. The communication contains no intimation that the Argentine authorities contemplate an actual break with Berlin.

Little Costa Rica, just emerging from the throes of a revolution, sent word to her diplomatic representative here today that she endorsed the course of President Wilson and was "ready to prove it if necessary."

Argentina's position was defined in a note reaching the State Department today in answer to the notification by this government of a state of war. The communication is regarded here as defining a status just short of an open break. Diplomats and State Department officials believe it would have been difficult for Argentina to go further at this time. The position of that government is different from that of the United States and Brazil, who have suffered directly from the submarine campaign.

Argentine's note follows:

"The government of the Argentine Republic, in view of the causes that have prompted the United States of America to declare war against the government of the German empire, recognizes the justice of that decision, founded as it is upon the violation of the principle of neutrality established by the rules of international law which have been considered definite conquests of civilization."

ASKS GOETHALS TO DIRECT BUILDING OF 1,000 SHIPS

Wilson Insists on Bill to Raise Army by Draft

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Major-General George Goethals, builder of the Panama Canal, was formally requested by President Wilson today to take charge of the building of 1,000 wooden ships for foreign commerce. The greatest importance is attached to the plans of the Shipping Board for building wooden ships, which have been approved by the President and the Council of National Defense. The entire resources of available shipbuilding yards are to be used for the purpose.

The President earnestly hopes that General Goethals will undertake the work, and if he does so, he will be placed in general charge, with unlimited authority, to organize the building facilities. Recently the general accepted the position of State Engineer of New Jersey, but it is understood that his contract allows him to give up the work if called upon to perform public duties.

The Shipping Board has \$50,000,000 at its disposal for the construction and purchase of vessels, and it is estimated that beginning early in the fall, ships at the rate of 200,000 tons a month can be turned out.

RAILROADS CALLED ON TO AID IN SOLVING PROBLEM

During a meeting of railroad executives here today, the question was taken up making arrangements so that ships now on the Great Lakes and in the coastwise trade, can be utilized for ocean-going commerce.

Under such a plan, to be put into effect only as rapidly as the railroads can provide facilities to take the place of the lakes and coastwise shipping, it is estimated that the present transatlantic tonnage of the United States can be doubled, and possibly tripled.

Officials have expressed on the railroad executives the danger of the submarine menace, and have laid stress on the fact that by greatly increasing the transatlantic shipping tonnage, the work of submarines can be counterbalanced.

The use of German merchant ships now in American harbors will add approximately 600,000 tons to the supply of the United States. Estimates are now being made on the cost of repairing the damaged machinery of these vessels.

Chairman William Dorman, of the Shipping Board, discussed the entire shipping question with President Wilson today, and the request then was sent to General Goethals.

SPANISH STEAMER SUNK

First of This Nation's Vessels to Be Sent Down Without Warning by German Submarine.

(By Associated Press.)

PARIS, April 11.—The Spanish steamer San Fulgencio has been torpedoed without warning, according to a Madrid dispatch to Havas. This is the first Spanish ship sunk by the Germans without notice.

MADRID MAKES STRONG PROTEST TO GERMANY

(By Associated Press.)

LONDON, April 11.—The Spanish government, says an Exchange Telegraph dispatch from Madrid, has made a strong protest to Germany with reference to the torpedoing of the steamer San Fulgencio.

The San Fulgencio was of 1,555 tons gross. She was built in 1901.

Cotton Plant Destroyed.

LOUISBURG, N. C., April 11.—The plant of the Louisville Cotton Oil Company and 500 bales of cotton were destroyed by fire today. The estimated loss is \$150,000.

BALFOUR AT HEAD
OF COMMISSION
TO VISIT AMERICA

M. Viviani, Former Premier of France, Also Will Come.

ALL EXPECTED TO ARRIVE WITHIN NEXT TEN DAYS

Conference Said to Have Been Sought by Allied Leaders Themselves.

WILL BE HELD IN WASHINGTON

Distinguished Personnel of Great War Council Very Gratifying to U. S. Officials.

(By Associated Press.)

WASHINGTON, April 11.—Assembly in Washington within a few weeks of a great international war council was foreshadowed by an announcement from the State Department today that a British commission, headed by Arthur J. Balfour, Minister of Foreign Affairs, is expected to arrive within ten days to discuss with the government here questions connected with the conduct of the war. In addition to the Foreign Minister, the commission will include Admiral de Chair, of the British navy; General Bridges, of the army, and the governor of the Bank of England, attended by a numerous staff.

This was as far as the announcement made by the State Department goes, but it was learned authoritatively that a French commission, composed of officials and officers equally distinguished as the British representatives, also will be in Washington about the same time. This commission will be headed by M. Viviani, the present Minister of Justice in the French cabinet and formerly Premier.

It is not known definitely whether any other of the allied powers will send commissioners to Washington, but it is assumed that, owing to the difficulties in passage and the probable delay, the interests of these governments will be conduced to their resident ambassadors.

TO DISCUSS GENERALLY QUESTIONS OF POLICY

Beyond the statement that the object of the commission is to discuss generally questions of policy connected with the war, no information was given at the State Department. It was made clear that in no way will the United States government depart from the traditional policy of avoiding anything in the nature of political alliances, though, of course, that does not exclude full and intimate military and naval co-operation in the prosecution of the war.

While it is by no means certain that there will be a joint meeting of the visiting commissions, if the State Department should desire to avoid the appearance of an alliance, there is certain to be concert of action in some way.

The conference is stated to have been sought by the allied leaders themselves, in order to discuss every phase of the war. The caliber of the men sent, particularly Foreign Secretary Balfour, who is remembered here most warmly for his earnest endorsement of President Wilson's plan for world federation to insure peace, and Minister of Justice Viviani, one of the first half-dozen statesmen of France, is very gratifying to officials.

DISTRIBUTION OF BIG LOAN

ONE OF FIRST QUESTIONS

One of the first questions to be taken up will be the distribution of the \$2,000,000,000 loan to the allies, for which President Wilson has asked Congress to provide.

The greatest problem before the conference is stated to be the maintenance of the flow of American munitions and food supplies to Europe. This will be sought, first, by naval co-operation to fight the German submarine; second, by construction of a huge fleet of wooden merchantmen to negative its destructiveness, and, third, by a ways and means to increase American manufacture and the allies' ability to pay for the products.

Naval co-operation is understood to contemplate the policing of all North and South American waters by the American Navy, allowing the return of the British and French vessels engaged in that work and the safeguarding by American ships of the sea lane to Europe.

The military participation of the United States also probably will be discussed in broad terms, though it is realized on all sides that this country will not attempt to send an army to Europe for the present.

ANXIOUS TO SEE AMERICAN TROOPS ON FIGHTING FRONT

The military situation of this country is well understood by officials abroad. There is, however, an intense desire upon the part of the general public in the entente countries to see a small division of American troops at the front.

The complete reversal of American relations to the entente powers through the abandonment of neutrality in favor of war will necessitate an en-